

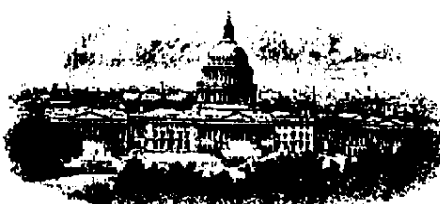
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November 3, 1995

Ms. Holly Martin
15 Storybrook Lane
Amherst, NH 03031

Dear Ms. Martin:

Thank you for contacting my office to express your concerns about federal regulation of the tobacco industry. I appreciate your comments and am pleased to respond.

I share your concerns about the President's pursuit of the tobacco industry and efforts to increase regulations on tobacco products. While scientific evidence indicates that there is a correlation between tobacco use and medical costs, I do not believe that excessive regulations and increased tobacco taxes will yield positive results to either our economy, or the health of the general population. Past regulations and taxes on the industry have not deterred people from smoking, and I simply do not believe that any further attempts to tax tobacco products, or eliminate them altogether, will prove beneficial.

I have never smoked, nor used smokeless tobacco and do not intend to start, but I recognize that this is a personal choice. While the government has a responsibility to inform people about the risks associated with tobacco use and other behaviors, it should not involve itself in individual decisions such as this one.

Once again, thank you for sharing your views with me. Please do not hesitate to contact me further about this issue, or any other of importance to you.

Sincerely,

Bill Zeliff
Member Of Congress

WHZ/pmw